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REMARKS

In response to the Office Action mailed on June 8, 2005, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration based on the above claim amendments and the following remarks. Applicant respectfully submits that the claims as presented are in condition for allowance.

Claims 1, 9, 14, and 16 have been amended, Claims 5 and 11 have been canceled, and new Claims 21-23 have been added, leaving Claims 6-10 and 12-23 for consideration upon entry of the present amendment. The paragraph beginning at page 12, line 18 of the specification shows the features of amended Claims 1, 9, and 16. The paragraph beginning at page 13, line 18 of the specification shows the features of newly added Claims 21-23. No new matter has been added by the amendments.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1, 9, 16 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. Claims 1, 9, 16, and 20 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement.

The Examiner has stated that there is no support in the specification for "the machine of the particular user does not have access to the cookie management system". In an effort to address the Examiner's concerns, this language has been removed from Claims 1, 9, and 16. Therefore, it is believed that Claims 1, 9, and 16 comply with the enablement requirement and the written description requirement. Claim 20, which does not include the phrase "the machine of the particular user does not have access to the cookie management system", is believed to comply with the enablement requirement and the written description requirement.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Microsoft Passport in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,966,705 issued to Koneru et al. (hereinafter "Koneru").

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Since Claims 5 and 11 have been canceled without prejudice, the rejection of Claims 5 and 11 is moot.

For an obviousness rejection to be proper, the Examiner must meet the burden of establishing that all elements of the invention are disclosed in the prior art; that the prior art relied upon, coupled with knowledge generally available in the art at the time of the invention, must contain some suggestion or incentive that would have motivated the skilled artisan to modify a reference or combined references; and that the proposed modification of the prior art must have had a reasonable expectation of success, determined from the vantage point of the skilled artisan at the time the invention was made. *In re Fine*, 5 U.S.P.Q.2d 1596, 1598 (Fed. Cir. 1988); *In Re Wilson*, 165 U.S.P.Q. 494, 496 (C.C.P.A. 1970).

This rejection is respectfully traversed because Microsoft Passport in view of Koneru does not teach or suggest all of the elements in Claims 1-4, 6-10, and 12-20.

Claim 1 recites a method for providing information on a plurality of users to a plurality of requestors over the Internet, comprising: storing information on the plurality of users in a database located on a cookie management system and associating the information with a plurality of keys; receiving a request at the cookie management system for information on a particular user from a requestor over the Internet; receiving both a user-supplied password and a key associated with the request at the cookie management system from the requestor over the Internet, the key associated with the request included in a cookie on a machine of the particular user, wherein the key associated with the request is retrieved from the machine of the particular user by the requestor, and wherein the user-supplied password is obtained from the particular user by the requestor and grants the requestor permission to use the information on the particular user in the cookie management system; using both the user-supplied password and the key associated with the request to retrieve the information on the particular user from the database; and forwarding the information on the particular user to the requestor over the Internet.

According to exemplary embodiments, the user-supplied password is obtained from the particular user by the requestor, and is received at the cookie management system from the requestor. In contrast, a subtitle "secure data storage and transfers", on page 3 of Microsoft

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Passport teach that <u>when you (i.e., a user) request to have your Passport Information sent to a participating Web site</u>, your Personal Information is encrypted and securely sent to that web site using advanced encryption technology. Therefore, it is the user in Microsoft Passport that requests sending secure data to the particular Web site, rather than the particular Web site itself. Further, Microsoft Passport does not teach or suggest the participating Web site obtains any user-supplied password from the user.

Thus, Microsoft Passport neither teaches nor suggests at least the element "receiving both a user-supplied password and a key associated with the request at the cookie management system from the requestor over the Internet, the key associated with the request included in a cookie on a machine of the particular user, wherein the key associated with the request is retrieved from the machine of the particular user by the requestor, and wherein the user-supplied password is obtained from the particular user by the requestor and grants the requestor permission to use the information on the particular user in the cookie management system", as recited in Claim 1. These features are not taught or suggested by Koneru.

Applicant submits that Microsoft Passport in view of Koneru does not render Claim 1 because Microsoft Passport in view of Koneru neither teach nor suggest, alone or in combination at least the elements "receiving both a user-supplied password and a key associated with the request at the cookie management system from the requestor over the Internet, the key associated with the request included in a cookie on a machine of the particular user, wherein the key associated with the request is retrieved from the machine of the particular user by the requestor, and wherein the user-supplied password is obtained from the particular user by the requestor and grants the requestor permission to use the information on the particular user in the cookie management system", as recited in Claim 1

For at least the above reasons, Claim 1 is patentable over Microsoft Passport in view of Koneru. Because they depend from Claim 1, Claims 2-4, 6-8 and 14 are also patentable over Microsoft Passport in view of Koneru.

Claim 9 recites "<u>receiving a user-supplied password from a user to the requestor website</u>, the password granting the requestor website permission to use information on the user in a

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cookie management system; sending a query over the Internet from the requestor website to the cookie management system for data associated with the key, the query including both the key retrieved from the cookie and the user-supplied password"; and Claim 16 recites "a cookie management system for receiving a request over the Internet from a requestor for information on a particular user, the request including both a user-supplied password and a key stored as part of a cookie on a machine of the particular user, wherein the key associated with the request is retrieved from the machine of the particular user by the requestor, and wherein the user-supplied password is obtained from the particular user by the requestor and grants the requestor permission to use the information on the particular user at the cookie management system".

Because Claims 9 and 16 include elements that are similar to Claim 1, Claims 9 and 16 are patentable over Microsoft Passport in view of Koneru for at least the same reasons that Claim 1 is patentable over Microsoft Passport in view of Koneru. Because they depend from Claim 9, Claims 10, 12-13 and 15 are patentable over Microsoft Passport in view of Koneru for at least the same reasons advanced with respect to Claim 9. Because they depend from Claim 16, Claims 17-20 are patentable over Microsoft Passport in view of Koneru for at least the same reasons advanced with respect to Claim 16.

Newly added Claims 21-23 depend from Claims 1, 9, and 16, respectively. Therefore, new Claims 21-23 are patentable over Microsoft Passport in view of Koneru for at least the same reasons advanced with respect to Claims 1, 9, and 16, respectively.

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Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks and amendments, Applicant submits that the above-identified application is now in condition for allowance. Early notification to this effect is respectfully requested.

If there are any charges with respect to this response or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account 06-1130 maintained by Applicants' attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

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